

Message Text

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44

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 USSS-00 SS-20 CU-05 SY-04 DRC-01

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P 181115Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5616

AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LIBREVILLE 0910

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (BONGO, ALAIN BERNARD)

SUBJ: VISIT OF PRESIDENT BONGO'S SON TO U.S.

DEPT FOR AF/C

PARIS FOR COHEN

1. GOG SECRETARY OF STATE FOR INFORMATION AT THE
PRESIDENCY RICHARD NGUEMA TELEPHONED CHARGE JULY 18
TO INFORM EMBASSY PRESIDENT BONGO'S TEEN-AGED SON
ALAIN BERNARD WOULD BE TRAVELING TO US FOR A PRIVATE VISIT.

2. PRESIDENT'S SON, TOGETHER WITH NGUEMA AND FOUR OTHERS
PLAN DEPART LIBREVILLE FOR PARIS JULY 19. GROUP WILL MAKE
ONWARD RESERVATIONS FOR TRAVEL TO US IN PARIS,
HOPEFULLY ON DIRECT FLIGHT PARIS-WASHINGTON JULY 23.
NGUEMA SAID GROUP WOULD SPEND 2-3 WEEKS IN US, DIVIDING
TIME FAIRLY EQUALLY BETWEEN WASHINGTON AND CALIFORNIA.
HE ASKED IF GUIDE COULD BE PROVIDED FOR ALL OR PART OF
VISIT.

3. CHARGE THANKED NGUEMA FOR INFORMING US OF IMPENDING
VISIT AND ASSURED HIM WE WISH TO DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE
TO MAKE IT PROFITABLE AND ENJOYABLE. CHARGE POINTED OUT
THAT THIS WAS PEAK SUMMER VISITING PERIOD IN US WHEN
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FRENCH-SPEAKING GUIDES AT A PREMIUM, CHARGE INDICATED,

HOWEVER, THAT SOMEONE WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY MEET GROUP AT WASHINGTON AIRPORT AND THAT DEPARTMENT OF STATE WOULD PROBABLY ARRANGE VIP VISITS TO DEPARTMENT, TO OTHER WASHINGTON POINTS OF INTEREST, AND ASSIST THEM IN MAKING APPROPRIATE CONTACTS IN CALIFORNIA.

4. FOR DEPT: REGRET NECESSITY OF GIVING DEPARTMENT SUCH SHORT NOTICE ON THIS VISIT. HOPE THAT NONETHELESS EVERYTHING POSSIBLE CAN BE DONE TO GIVE BONGO'S SON A GOOD STAY IN US. SUGGEST AT MINIMUM THAT GROUP BE MET AT WASHINGTON AIRPORT AND THAT SOME ATTEMPT BE MADE GIVE GROUP FRENCH-SPEAKING GUIDE FOR MORE IMPORTANT VISITS IN WASHINGTON, D.C. AREA. NGUEMA SAID GOG EMBASSY WASHINGTON AWARE OF VISIT, BUT AF/C MAY WISH TO VERIFY THIS.

5. FOR PARIS: AS ETA OF GROUP IN WASHINGTON INDEFINITE, CHARGE SUGGESTED TO NGUEMA THAT HE TELEPHONE POL COUNSELOR COHEN EMBASSY PARIS AS SOON AS FINAL RESERVATIONS CONFIRMED, REQUESTING COHEN RELAY INFORMATION TO DEPARTMENT.

6. IN ADDITION TO ALAIN BERNARD BONGO AND RICHARD NGUEMA, FOLLOWING ALSO INCLUDED IN PARTY: JOSEPH ANGUE, LEON PAUL NGOULAKIA, BERNARD BANAS, AND ASSANE DIOP. COUNTRYMAN

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